

NOTICE OF CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR PROPOSED PRIVATE
CROSSING CLOSURES WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD
(NCRR)/NORFOLK SOUTHERN (NS) RAILWAY AT
GORDON THOMAS DRIVE AND GREENBRIAR DRIVE

TIP Project No. P-4405 I & J

Orange County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Citizens Informational Workshop between the hours of 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Monday, January 7, 2013 at the Shared Visions Retreat Center (auditorium), located at 3717 Murphey School Road, in Durham.

The NCDOT Rail Division is proposing the closure of the private railroad crossings at both Gordon Thomas Drive and Greenbriar Drive. Alternate routes will be used when both of these crossings are closed. The alternate route for Gordon Thomas Drive would include Paschall Drive, Couch Mountain Road and Murphey School Road. The alternate route for Greenbriar Drive would be a proposed new road connecting to Spruce Pine Trail and Old NC 10.

These crossings are to be closed in the interest of improved safety for local residents using the existing crossings and for rail crews and passengers. This rail line is part of the Southeast High Speed Rail corridor which will have increased train speeds and more freight and passenger trains in the future.

The acquisition of right-of-way is scheduled to begin in 2014, followed by construction in 2015. These schedules are tentative and are subject to change.

Maps will be on display depicting the proposed new alternate routes for those that currently cross the NCRR/NS railroad at Gordon Thomas Drive and Greenbriar Drive. NCDOT representatives will be available to answer any questions and receive public input. The opportunity to submit written comments will be provided and is encouraged. There will not be a formal presentation.

For more information, please contact NCDOT Rail Environmental Engineer, Marc Hamel, by phone at (919) 707-4045 or by email at: mhamel@ncdot.gov or NCDOT Rail Division Consultant, Mark Reep, P.E., of Florence & Hutcheson, Inc. at (919) 900-1635 or by email at: mreep@flohut.com.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for anyone who wants to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Hamel as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

For persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, interpretive services will be available at the meeting upon request. For more information, please call 1-800-481-6494 prior to the meeting.